

OPC BULLETIN



Hotel Biltmore • 55 East 43rd Street • New York, N.Y. 10017 • (212) 687-2430 • Volume 30, No. 13, July 15, 1975

SR. JIMMY MENDITTO POR SEMPRE!

\$75 deposit set for OPC members going to London

A refundable deposit — \$50 for air fare and \$25 for hotel reservations — is required immediately from those who plan to take the OPC-sponsored 15-day trip to London. Tour Chairman *Sandy Powers* says the deposit may be refunded up to August 7.

"We must have 40 paid up travelers for the trip to become airborne," Powers stressed.

Checks should be made out to Travel Specialists, Inc. and sent to Mary Novick at the OPC.

Details for the tour were completed at the Gala London Evening at the Club July 1, which drew 65 prospective tour members. The air fare will be \$366 plus \$3 federal departure tax, a total of \$369.

Trans World Airlines will host a champagne party at departure time from Kennedy Airport, Sunday, August 31.

The group will return from London Monday, Sept. 15.

Powers said the deluxe Hyde Park Intercontinental Hotel, which has just opened, is offering a 50 per cent discount to tour members — per person, based on double-occupancy. Accommodations will be available also at the Intercontinental's Portman Hotel, a first-class hostelry, for about \$10 a day per person, also based on double-occupancy.

There will be a welcome cocktail party and dinner at the new London Press Club for the tour members on Monday evening, Sept. 1. The cost will be about \$14 per person. Former Prime Minister Edward Heath will be the featured speaker.

On Tuesday evening, September 2, there will be a cocktail party and dinner hosted by The Hyde Park Intercontinental.

EAT, DRINK WITH US AT OPC!



Himself: The guest of honor

— Photo by Helen Mandel

Wilson misses exclusive On bleep of Babylon

Theo Wilson, Daily News courtroom reporter, described covering Sirhan Sirhan, Charley Manson, and Daniel Ellsberg at an OPC At Home July 8.

Theo was in New York on vacation. After she'd covered so many California trials, the News established her as a one-person bureau in Los Angeles.

She described how she runs her single-handed operation on the Coast, and told personal anecdotes about celebrated trials that didn't make the news columns.

Example: a wild-eyed girl was carried out of the Manson trial chanting, "I'm the whore of Babylon!" At a recess, Theo found the trooper who'd arrested her and asked, "what did you find out about that nutty girl?"

"Nuthin," the cop replied deadpan. "Checked the Babylon P.D., they got no sheet on her."

* * *

A film documentary will be shown by its associate producer and cinematographer *Samuel Kravitt*, at the Club's Cocktail at Home, Tuesday, July 29.

The film, "Friend of Gentle People," portrays Dr. John Walden, West Hamlin, West Virginia physician. He spends several months each year ministering to primitive Idians in the rain forests of Ecuador.

In the past 20 years, the Overseas Press Club has had seven different clubhouses, 11 presidents, a mercifully forgotten number of vicissitudes, several generations of membership.

And one James Menditto.

More than 200 people gathered in the clubrooms July 2 to honor Jimmy for his 20 years with the club, first as bartender, then head bartender, in recent years as Club Manager.

"When you stop to think about it, Jimmy's the most enduring thing about this club," President Jack Raymond said.

M.C. Ralph Schultz said he wasn't going to stop to think about it, and proceeded to build on the table before the guest of honor a mountain of gifts that eventually blocked out his blushing pate.

There was a lifetime supply of hair shampoo, which in Jimmy's case, of course, doesn't take a very big bottle; sets of books, a predatory kite, boxes that piled up faster than they could be unwrapped, a cash purse, all assembled by Jimmy's friends.

The beautiful operatic soprano Josephine Dolce, escorted by Jack Frummer, serenaded Jimmy with his favorite soul-arias.

Jim Wessel, who came up with the idea for "Jimmy's Night", kicked off a series of testimonials commemorating celebrated Menditto exploits over the years: his heroic stand against the roll-eating rodents of 40th Street, his delicate diplomacy in arbitrating altercations among members, his wise counsel to an apprentice bartender torn whether to serve an advanced drinker another ("make it a double — let's get it over with quickly").

Reunion chairman Ed Cunningham organized the evening, coordinating program and gifts.

Door prizes were awarded to participants who came closest to guessing exactly when Jimmy was born. Wags who substituted "why" for "when" were disqualified.

Usually reliable observers con-

(Continued on page 3)

OBITUARIES

Morgan Beatty, 72, NBC radio news announcer, died at his home near St. John's, Antigua, July 4.

Mr. Beatty retired from NBC in 1967. He had been associated with the network's News of the World for 21 years. He joined NBC as a military analyst in 1941 after 16 years with the Associated Press.

He had been a member of the OPC since 1945.

* * *

Matt Huttner, a trustee of the Overseas Press Club Foundation, died of a heart attack July 13, suffered while playing golf in Greenwich, Conn. He was 59, lived at 911 Park Avenue, New York City.

Mr. Huttner was a former treasurer of the OPC and had been a member of the club since 1947.

He was chairman of Pyramid Communications Inc., of New York, a publishing firm he founded in 1949. He was a captain in the Army Air Corps in World War II, serving on the staff of General James H. Doolittle. He held the John J. Pershing Award for Military Citizenship and the Anti-Defamation League, Publishing Industry Award.

Survivors include his widow, a son, Richard, a daughter, Hilary, a stepson, Dr. James Brodey, and two brothers, Drs. Arthur and Leon Huttner.

Sheldon M. Machlin, sculptor, print-maker and photojournalist, died of a heart attack at his home, 30 Columbia Place, Brooklyn, N.Y., June 8. He was 56 years old and a member of the OPC since 1959.

Mr. Machlin's sculptures and photographs are in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

During WW II, Mr. Machlin was a volunteer ambulance driver for the American Field Service in North Africa and the Middle East and an Army combat photo unit commander in France and Germany.

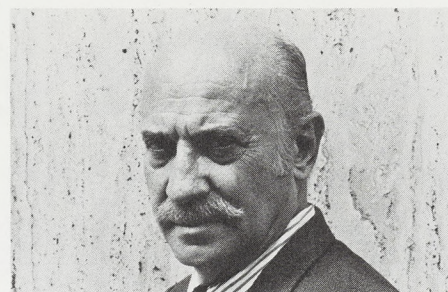
Born in N.Y.C., Machlin is survived by his wife and a daughter.

* * *

Dr. Allan J. Roos, former associate member of OPC and husband of *B. Mathieu Roos*, died May 16, after a long illness.

Dr. Roos was a psychoanalyst and author. A native New Yorker, a graduate of Harvard College (cum laude) and the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, he was a consultant to Vassar College and to the United Nations International School. He served in the Navy from September 1942 to 1946 as a lieutenant commander. He saw combat in the North Atlantic.

He leaves his wife, B. Mathieu, a longtime staffer of the New Yorker (and first woman vice president of the OPC) and two children by an earlier marriage, Joanna and Michael.



GEROLD FRANK, author of the current bestseller *Judy* will tell an OPC audience on Thursday, July 24th at 5:30 PM about his research for the book. He is the only writer who was given access to all the Garland material by Judy Garland's children, husbands, doctors, relatives and directors.

He conducted 200 interviews and collected 10,000 pages of notes of this book. The author — a longtime OPC member, and a brilliant biographer — will answer questions after his discussion of his subject.

CALENDAR

Tuesday, July 22, 5:30-7 p.m. — Cocktail At Home with *Rohamma Lee*, Editor/Publisher of *Film News*. Inside the non-commercial audio-visual world. Cash bar.

Tuesday, July 29, 5:30-7 p.m. — Cocktail At Home with *Samuel Kravitt*, cinematographer. "Friend of the Gentle People," a documentary about the work of Dr. John Walden among the primitive Indians of Ecuador. Cash bar.

Sunday, August 31 to Monday, September 15, OPC-sponsored trip to Europe.

RESERVATIONS: Please call Mary Novick, 687-2430. Reservation cancellations must reach the OPC 24 hours before the event, otherwise members will be charged the announced fee.

Science Awards

Entries for the American Association for the Advancement of Science annual science writing awards competition must be postmarked no later than November 15, 1975.

There are three awards of \$1,000 two for newspapers & one for general magazines.

Details are available from AAAS, 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD

The ability of the OPC to provide Blue Cross/Blue Shield coverage is dependent on prompt payment of subscription fees by members. The payment dates are: February 21, May 21, August 21, November 21.

Jimmy Breslin Tells OPC About Watergate and "Attempted Fascism"

The entire Watergate affair "shows that there was an active conspiracy started to obstruct justice, which included the President of the United States—that was the guts of John Doar's case," *Jimmy Breslin* told on OPC "Talking Shop With..." audience on June 18.

Breslin, author of the best selling, "How the Good Guys Finally Won" (Viking), traced the genesis of his book (May-August, 1974), in which he was going to cover the day that Nixon was going to be impeached.

When Nixon resigned, Breslin said, 285 congressmen were ready to vote for impeachment and he had to look for another out. Breslin concluded that there was "no question that there was an attempt to change the form of government in the U.S."

Some other Breslin observations:

- "Congressman Thomas P. O'Neill (Mass.) says that the true charge in the Watergate... was attempted Fascism."

- "Dean Birch said only Richard Nixon could have erased the 18½ minutes of tape."

- "General Haig comes out as a hero an awful lot. I think he was actively involved in lying to the American public for a very long period of time."

- "Woodward and Bernstein brought back journalism."

Breslin also had these comments on his career:

- "I used to work for the New York Journal-American. You couldn't even believe the weather report in that paper."

- "I started on the Long Island Daily Press. It was a Newhouse paper. I read today he's a publishing baron. The years I was there, the staff of the L.I. Press received a Pulitzer Prize for malnutrition."



M. C. Ralph Schulz ladles out unexpected goodies and gag gifts to the guest of honor.

MENDITTO...

(Continued from page 1)

curred that the party was one of the best in club memory. The later the evening wore on, however, the less reliable the usually reliable observers were observed to become.

After a quick trip to Florida, Jimmy was back on the job a few days

later. He said he'd felt pretty conspicuous, sitting there the center of such attention. He also denied vehemently reports that moisture had been detected in his eye during the ceremonies. But then, so did at least a half-dozen other old-timers who'd been in the thick of the reminiscing at Jimmy's 20th anniversary party.

— George E. Burns

Report from...

HONG KONG

Close to 120 western newsmen remained on the harrowing South Vietnam beat after the April 30th surrender to the Provincial Revolutionary Government and the hasty American evacuation.

They included newsmen from the United States, France, Japan, Britain and West Germany. Several days after the surrender, about 60 newsmen from East Europe, Cuba and China moved into Saigon from North Vietnam.

Reporters and photographers continued to work for the American news agencies and networks after the communist regime was established in Saigon. They included:

Associated Press — George Esper, Peter Amett and Matt Franjola; United Press International — Alan Dawson, Leon Daniel, Paul Vogle, Charles Huntley and Hugh Van Es; NBC — James Laurie and Neil Davis; CBS — Eric Cavaliero.

BONN

Moving: Bob Ball (Fortune) after 7 years in Bonn plans to relocate in London this September to best expensive life in Germany and be closer to kids attending UK schools. "Germany still the most important country in Europe, economically speaking, but traveling as I do, I can cover the scene from London also." Elizabeth Kraemer (Time) will watch the For-

tune store on a string basis. **Leaming:** Jerry King (ABC) soaking up German in London "Total Immersion" course before taking over Bonn buro replacing Don Farmer reassigned to Washington. **Freelancing:** Phil Till (ex-UPI Bonn) stringing for new NBC radio office in Bonn as well as National Enquirer.

— Carl Koch

The Overseas Press Club 1975 Membership and American Correspondents Overseas Directory is currently being mailed following a six-year hiatus.

Art Milton, OPC Vice President and publisher of the annual Dateline, is publisher of the new Directory. Will Yolen, a past president and editor of the Club's recent NEWS-BREAK, is editor.

The Directory contains more than 1,600 listings of members and other foreign correspondents around the world. It will be distributed to OPC people in the next week.

— Will Yolen

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Active Resident

Jean-Claude Soares, self employed.

SPONSORS: Anita Diamant Berke, Will Yolen.

Associate Resident

John R. Flint, Manager, Public Relations Allied Chemical Corporation.

SPONSORS: Meyer Lurie, Ed Cunningham.

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OPC HOURS • PHONES

Every day except Saturday and Sunday

OPC OFFICE: 687-2430.

Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

* * *

BAR: 687-7000, ext. 485.

Open from 12 noon to 10 p.m.

Happy Hour from 5 to 7 p.m.

* * *

DINING ROOM: 687-7000, ext. 486

Lunch from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Sandwiches from 5 to 8 p.m.

FOR SALE — Charming house just outside Woodstock, 26 acres; 1 bedrm. & sleeping loft. Selling fully furnished, ready to move in; ideal for writer. Asking \$35,000. Eric Mart, 914-657-8562, Moonhaw Rd. W. Shokan, N.Y. 12494.



OPC BULLETIN

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Bulletin Committee

Harry Welker, Chairman and Editor: Matt Bassity, Jay Brennan, Bob Sheridan, Ralph Leviton, Grace Naismith, Ralph Salazar, Ruth Biemiller, Thomas J. Kraner, George Burns, H.D. Quigg, Jr.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN & HOW

By GRACE NAISMITH

APPOINTMENTS: Paul G. Eberhart was appointed as managing editor of United Press International which made the announcement.

H.L. Stevenson, editor-in-chief, said Eberhart, 39, would be responsible for day-to-day direction of UPI's worldwide news report. The appointment is effective immediately.

Eberhart, who has served as associate editor of the service for the past three years, succeeds H. Jefferson Grigsby who resigned for personal reasons.

INJURED: Bob Considine, at Lake Tahoe, where he was doing a story on hot-air balloons. The balloon broke loose, Bob was caught head first in a tall tree, than bashed 100 yards away into a steep embankment. He was carried away in a stretcher to a Reno hospital for treatment. Home July 3, further X-rays show a broken vertebra, and Bob entered Roosevelt Hospital for special treatment. He says he was sorry to have missed Jimmy Menditto's party.

HONORS: M.D. Morris won first place in the 1975 competition of the Society for Technical Communication, published works class, for his article "ABC's for Engineers." He is now teaching a graduate communication workshop in the summer session at Cornell University... Florence Becker Lennon, Boulder, Colo., received an honorary degree of doctor of humane letters from the University of Colorado. She celebrated her 80th birthday in May... The New York Law Forum dedicated its winter 1975 issue to Morris L. Ernst. Stephen Hochberg, assistant professor of law, New York Law School wrote a glowing tribute in the Journal's first amendment symposium. He quotes Ernst: "I believe in secrecy; new ideas and plans must be protected. 'Off the record' is a crucial concept."

TRAVELERS: Wendell Sether, on trip to West Germany recently, carried greetings of the OPC and Joe Peters' overseas liaison committee to the International Press Club of Munich. He was greeted by George Wulffius, president, who bestowed an unusual honor on the U.S. guest by opening the press club bar, which had been closed for a Bavarian holiday. Present was Aaron Einfrank, of Radio Free Europe, Munich... Ursula Kreis off to Japan, Hongkong and Thailand... Enrique Rojas-Vela and his wife from Buenos Aires in New York for a long visit... Doris Thurston Macauley enroute to Copenhagen, Reykjavik, Nice and London... Adi-Kent Thomas Jeffrey, touring the

country in behalf of her book, "The Bermuda Triangle." Publisher: Warner Books... Alex Liepa, Doubleday editor, enroute to California... Doris Macauley and husband Thurston are on the Riviera after spending 10 days in Bermuda.

PUBLISHING EVENTS: Roger Christian's latest book, "Electronic Libraries," released June 30 by Knowledge Industry Publications... Jim Atkins, has a book out on Zen and religious sayings... The late Benjamin Fine's daughter, Janet, writes that the education author had finished a new book, "The Stranglehold of the IQ" which Doubleday will publish. Janet is with The Canadian Press in Toronto.

Matt Bassity has the distinction of being the only person in New York

LETTERS

Found

I was somewhat amazed to find myself listed as "missing", when the April *Bulletin* was not only correctly addressed but arrived on schedule! We are traveling in Europe and North Africa, and keeping a close eye on our home in Sotogrande. I have neither retreated nor retired from "the scene." I am writing and producing a weekly radio program for the Marine Corps Reserve, from which I am retired, which is heard on about 800 stations, and which causes me to make quarterly returns to the States. It's called *Time Capsule '75*, on *Spectrum USA*, and is now in its 13th year.

Keep up the great work. The OPC must and will regain its most important positive position. My best to all of

who works for both the Associated Press and the New York Times. During a recent stint he shifted gears from Sports Editor one day to News Summary Editor the next on the A.P. Broadcast wire and then sat on the rim as Copy Editor for *Rob Roy Buckingham's* NYT News Service.

you, and I'll be dropping by as soon as I reach New York.

Richard S. Stark, USMCR (Ret)
Sotogrande (Cadiz)

Another View

In his modest appraisal (July 1 issue) of his achievements as editor of *The Bulletin*, your immediate predecessor reached for one that wasn't there.

He helped, he said, "to make our dining room and bar profitable ..."

The Club receives no percentage on food and drinks served on our premises. We hope the amount of business we do with the Biltmore will weigh heavily at lease-renewal time.

We faced an 8 p.m. closing hour, because evening business generally was poor. Happy House Hours (5-7), seasonal House Parties and the Tuesday and Thursday Cocktail At Homes were instituted to avoid an 8 o'clock "Time, gentlemen!"

Those programs continue. Calendar events — Shoptalk, Book Nights, Headliner Luncheons, Jazz Concerts, Music Nights, Reunions and other special evenings (Jimmy's Night!) — there is reason to believe that the Club will keep the Biltmore roof over its head and have a good time doing it.

Ruth Biemiller, Chairman
House Operations

Are your name, title and address correct? If not. . . make corrections on the mailing panel below, insert in envelope and return it to the OPC!

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.
Hotel Biltmore, 55 East 43rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

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